



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 15 June 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
15 JUNE 1967

1. Arab States -
Israel

There have been no significant developments overnight.

The Soviets may be doing some artful dodging with their latest UN gambit. By moving the crisis into the General Assembly, the Russians give up the veto they have in the Security Council. They can do as much shoe pounding as they want in the assembly, but, in the end, they can let themselves be "pressured" by the majority into a more tenable--and reasonable--position.

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The Arabs, meanwhile, are unbending in their opposition to direct negotiations with Israel and the Israelis are just as adamant that there must be such negotiations. Yesterday the Egyptians said the Suez Canal would not be opened until the Israelis left the eastern shore.

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2. South Vietnam

Thieu announced yesterday that he will run for president.

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3. Communist China



4. South Korea

Student demonstrations over election irregularities are spreading. Some universities have been closed and troops may be needed to control the situation. We see no immediate threat to the government, however.

5. Canada

Ambassador Butterworth feels the Pearson cabinet is drifting more and more toward neutralism. Reviewing Ottawa's foot-dragging performance on mutual defense matters, the ambassador comments there is a definite and growing Canadian tendency to shirk military responsibilities and to slide away from close cooperation with the US. "While our requests meet with stalling today, they could well meet with outright no's tomorrow."

6. Ecuador

One of President Arosemena's most outspoken critics was elected mayor of Guayaquil in Sunday's election; he may well go after the presidency next year. As mayor of Ecuador's largest--and most turbulent--city, Assad Bucaram can be expected to make trouble for Arosemena. As president, however, he probably would not be much of an improvement over his political arch-enemy.

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7. Venezuela

The Venezuelans are giving serious thought to going after Castro with something more substantive than talk. [REDACTED]

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President Leoni is angry because other Latin American nations have shown little enthusiasm for his effort to get some action out of the Organization of American States on the issue of Cuban subversion. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Havana radio took to the air after Cuban soldiers were captured on Venezuelan soil last month and said, in effect, "we did it and we'll do it again."

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Besides commando raids on Cuba, the Venezuelans are considering economic sanctions against countries trading with Havana. [REDACTED]

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8. Dominican Republic

Dominican security forces are probably up to handling any guerrilla outbreak. [REDACTED]

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